

ABO News

The American Board of Orthodontics (ABO) remains committed to elevating the quality of orthodontic care for the public by promoting excellence through certification, education, and professional collaboration. **Currently, 68% of AAO orthodontists are board certified**, a significant milestone that reflects a strong collective commitment to excellence within our specialty.

ABO at the AAO Annual Session

2026-27 Appointed Officers

While in Orlando **P. Emile Rossouw**, *M.Ch.D., Ph.D.*, of Rochester, N.Y., was officially installed as **President** of the ABO Board of Directors for the term beginning in May 2026.

Additional appointments include:

Anthony M. Puntillo, D.D.S., M.S.D. of Chesterton, IN as **President-Elect**

Daniel J. Rejman, D.D.S., M.S. of Castle Rock, Co as **Secretary/Treasurer**

With **Roberto Hernandez-Osini**, *D.M.D., M.P.H., M.S.* of Juana Díaz, Puerto Rico, transitioning to Immediate Past President, we are pleased to announce that **Jose A. Bosio**, B.D.S., M.S. of Baltimore, MD, has been selected and confirmed by the AAO House of Delegates as the 2026–2027 ABO **Director** representing the Middle Atlantic Society of Orthodontists.

ABO Awards

The ABO was honored to recognize the 2026 award recipients for their exceptional contributions to the field of orthodontics and to our mission.

- **Dr. Richard Kulbresh**– Albert H. Ketcham Memorial Award
- **Dr. Steven Marshall**– Dale B. Wade Award of Excellence in Orthodontics
- **Dr. Steven Dugoni**– Earl E. and Wilma S. Shepard Distinguished Service Award
- **Dr. R. David Rynearson**– O.B. Vaughan Special Recognition Award

We are also pleased to announce the 2027 ABO award recipients:

- **Dr. Jeryl D. English** – Albert H. Ketcham Memorial Award
- **Dr. Valmy Kulbresh**– Dale B. Wade Award of Excellence in Orthodontics
- **Dr. Nicholas Barone** - Earl E. and Wilma S. Shepard Distinguished Service Award
- **Dr. James Hartsfield** – O.B. Vaughan Special Recognition Award

To learn more about the awards and criteria, the nomination process, and to peruse the list of previous recipients and their bios, please visit [ABO Awards](#).

Please join us in congratulating each of these outstanding individuals.

CDABO Awards

Presenting orthodontic residency cases at the AAO Annual Session can be both personally rewarding and a valuable self-assessment experience. The ABO **strongly** encourages residents to gain extensive experience in reviewing patient cases and conducting objective

analyses to develop independent clinical judgment. Engaging in this critical thinking process fosters meaningful reflection on treatment decisions and outcomes.

While case submissions are an accomplishment in and of themselves, we are pleased to announce, this year the ABO provided financial awards for the top-ranked CDABO Case Displays.

The following prizes were awarded in both DI10 and DI20 categories:
First Place: \$1,000 | Second Place: \$750 | Third Place: \$500

Our valued collaboration with educators during the 2025 ABO Educators Symposium inspired this initiative, reinforcing our message that *Together We Elevate the Standard of Excellence in Orthodontics*.

ABO Resource Guide

The ABO Resource Guide supports board certified orthodontists in promoting and communicating the value of board certification to patients and the public. A new Resource Guide was mailed to active board-certified orthodontists in September 2025, and an eBook version is available via the ABO Storefront.

To access the Storefront, log in to your ABO account and click the blue 'ABO Storefront' button located below your picture on the left side of your dashboard.

ABO Board Certified® Designation

The ABO has introduced a standardized format for displaying board certification credentials: ABO-Board Certified. By displaying the credential (Ex: John Smith, DDS, MS, ABO-Board Certified) you help strengthen recognition of board certification across the profession. A consistent order improves clarity for patients, colleagues, and regulatory organizations and aligns with medical best practices. Read the December 2025 AJO-DO article [here](#).

Additional guidance is available on the ABO [Across the Board](#) blog and within the ABO Brand Standards and Marks Usage Guidelines.

Certification Renewal

ABO certification renewal is an important component of the board certification process. The ABO is currently reviewing the Certification Renewal process. Through this effort, we are identifying what is working well, determining areas for improvement, collaborating with other specialty boards, and gathering insights on professional growth and lifelong learning preferences among board certified specialists—all to help guide future enhancements. The goal is to maintain a program that supports lifelong learning, fosters professional growth, and upholds public trust while remaining relevant to board certified specialists. Updates will be shared as they become available.

ABO Volunteer Opportunities

The ABO welcomes your unique perspective and strengths through a variety of leadership and professional growth opportunities, empowering you to make meaningful contributions to the specialty while advancing your own development. For more information, visit: <https://americanboardortho.com/orthodontists/volunteer-opportunities/>

ABO-Board Certified orthodontists interested in serving as an [ABO Director](#) are encouraged to review the qualifications and nomination process.

If you have any questions regarding the Board or interest in serving please do not hesitate to connect with me personally at Puntillo@AmericanBoardOrtho.com.